

MARCH 5, 1864.]

LATEST LONDON BETTING.

THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS.

THURSDAY NIGHT.

THE LIVERPOOL STEEPLE CHASE.	
6 to 1 agst Emblematic (t)	100 to 7 agst Series Case (t)
1 to 1 ... Barmaid (t)	100 to 6 ... Ocean Witch (t)
10 to 1 ... Newell (t)	30 to 1 ... Sinking Fund (t)
10 to 1 ... Jerusalem (t)	100 to 3 ... Worcester (t)
100 to 8 ... Real Jane (t)	

LATEST BETTING AT MANCHESTER.

THURSDAY NIGHT.

THE LIVERPOOL STEEPLE CHASE.	
15 to 2 agst Emblematic (t)	16 to 1 agst Ocean Witch (t)
8 to 1 ... East Lambton (t)	100 to 6 ... Jerusalem (t)
10 to 1 ... Wex Nell (t and off)	20 to 1 ... Sinking Fund (t & off)
10 to 1 ... Portland (off)	

NOTTINGHAM SPRING MEETING.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1ST.

THURSDAY NIGHT.

The Trial Stakes of 5 sovs each, with 25 added.	One mile and a quarter.
9 subs.	
Mr. Samuel's Twilight, by Mountain Deer—Dawn of Day, aged 9t.	A. Edwards 1
Mr. J. Barber's The Clown, 3 yrs, 6t lb.	Clarke 2
Duke of Cambridge, 5 yrs, 6t lb.	W. H. C. 3
Also ran—The Tailor, Mrs. Waveney's Hawk's Eye, and Queen.	A. Walker 3
Betting: 7 to 4 agst Twilight; 7 to 2 agst The Clown, 4 to 1 agst Partisan, and 4 to 1 each agst Hawk's Eye and The Tailor.	Won a capital race by a length; Partisan had fourth; Waveney was fifth, Moreno sixth, Hawk's Eye seventh, and Charlie last.
The Stand Plate of 50 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 2 ft; winners extra.	Half a mile; 23 subs.
Lord Bateman's Gipsy Girl, by Turnus—Maid of Corinth, 4 yrs, 7t lb.	J. Grinsham 2
Mr. G. Egerton's Mother Bunch, 3 yrs, 5t lb.	Carroll 2
Also ran—East Sheep, Don't Come Late, Alfredo, Mrs. Somerville, and East Sheep.	Clarke 2
Betting: 5 to 2 agst Don't Come Late, 4 to 1 each agst Gipsy Girl and East Sheep, and 5 to 3 agst Mother Bunch.	Won by a length and a half; a length in the race of Mother Bunch finished Don't Come Late, East Sheep, Alfredo, and Mrs. Somerville, so close together that the judge was unable to place a third.

The Innkeepers' Plate of 50 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 2 ft; winners extra.	One mile.
16 subs.	

Mr. T. Cliff's Ossian, 4 yrs, 6t 12lb.	H. Taylor 1
Lord Stamford's Damon, 2 yrs, 5t 12lb.	J. Sayers 2
Mr. Marquis of Hastings' Redead, 3 yrs, 6t 2lb.	F. Clark 3
Mr. Barber's Cutler, 5 yrs, 7t 4lb.	T. French 4
Dancks: Betting: 7 to 4 agst Damon, 2 to 1 agst Ossian, and 4 to 1 each Redead, Damon, and 5 to 3 agst Mother Bunch.	Redead was a bad third.

The Nottingham Spring Handicap of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; winners extra.	One mile and a half; 30 subs.
Mr. Lincoln's Tourist, by Daniel O'Rourke—Marguerite, 4 yrs, 7t 2lb.	J. Grinsham 3

Lord Bateman's Diana, 2 yrs, 5t 12lb.	H. Taylor 1
Lord Stamford's Revolver, 4 yrs, 7t 9lb.	J. Manu 2
Lord Bateman's Diana, 2 yrs, 5t 12lb.	J. Grinsham 3
Also ran—Mrs. Egerton's Diana, Jack the Almond, The Devil, and Devilish Dancer.	Clarke 2
Betting: 9 to 4 agst Tourist, 3 to 1 agst Dunkeld, 6 to 1 agst Carlsbrook, 100 to 15 agst Revolver, and 10 to 1 each agst Diana, 2 to 1 agst Devilish Dancer, and 5 to 3 agst Devilish Devil.	Devilish Devil was a bad third.

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The Park Stake of 5 sovs each, with 50 added.	Five furlongs.
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CRICKET.

THE GREAT CRICKETERS OF ENGLAND.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE "ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS."

The cricketers of England,
What noble souls are they,
As frank and free as men can be,
On this big ball o' clay.—OLD SONG.

As, just now, there is a temporary lull in cricketing matters, and as we have, within a week or two, a few observations illustrative of the styles, manner, spirit, &c., of the play of our great cricketers, it will be well to read with great interest. It has been observed more than once that your number of good cricketers—both batsmen and bowlers—has become very large indeed; so large, in fact, that the members of the two Elephants—All England and United—have frequently found themselves in difficulty in selecting their eleven. And it is not one of the least pleasing signs of these selections that personal merit, civility, good behaviour, sobriety, and general courtesy, always claim a preference over superior cricketing skill. Those who are fond of bearing arms, those lubberly prolixities, and that bullying bravado, which, I am sorry to say, are to be seen at our cricket grounds. Modesty, quietness, a humble address, and personal inferiority, greatly prefer to any extraordinary dexterity, shilling, or other boldness. We have no hesitation in saying that any man, of even moderate ability, with a fair personal appearance, has a fair chance of succeeding in the cricket-field now-a-days than he had in former days. He may be possessed of a sharper eye or a firmer nerve, or a better judgment in the practice of the noble game, yet distinguished by those gross moral and mental disqualifications to which all men are liable. It matters not in what situation of life a man may be—whether he be a barrister or a lawyer, a doctor or a distancer—without some sense, and modest, obliging behaviour, he cannot possibly succeed. What numbers of cricketers could I name whose behaviour has been bold and swagger—have dragged them from the pinnacle of power, and the base of their profession, and they have gone home into the oblivion and degradation to which all low and vicious men are apt to sink. My earnest advice to all aspirants to cricket is, to observe everything else, is to observe a steady and obliging demeanour at all times, and if they take pattern from the men whose play you now know about to describe, they will not do much amiss.

Perhaps, at the present time, the most "sensational" player, at bat, bowler, and fielder combined—Englandian or English, is Mr. Grace, but as I have previously argued, Mr. C. is not the best, nor, by any means, the best we have. To deny that Mr. Grace is exceedingly clever in the field, to say that he has a wonderful eye to bowling talent, to attempt to prove that he is not a good batsman, were arrant folly. Mr. Grace is exceedingly clever in all points. He can drive tremendously; he can hit to leg very powerfully, and, in fact, he can cut splendidly. His driving, however, is, by far, the best part of his play, and the only fault I can possibly find with it is that he sometimes steps the bounds of discretion in meeting ball that other players—Mortlock, Hayward, Carpenter, Daff, Anderson—would "get hold of." I have, however, in a former article, observed in a former article, is noticeable in Mr. Grace's play, and is one which cannot be easily overlooked, and that is very ungraceful and uncricket-like. Balls that should be "cut" are "off," "in" with the utmost impunity, drag them "out" to the on side, frequently making by this play a great number of runs. Mr. Grace is certainly not a model batsman. He has, however, perhaps, the sharpest eye of any cricketer alive, and the consequence is a certain nerve, and, trifled with a wonderful quick perception of the pitch, he is enabled to play the bats which for the last three seasons have made his name famous in cricket records, as a bowler. Mr. Grace ranks in the middle class. He has a wonderfully good pair of hands, always well balanced, and he is strongly tried in the wicket, but on the whole he comes under the category denominated by professionals "plain bowlers." Like Grunby, Slim, Caffyn, Tom Hayward, and Tom Sewell, you may play his bowling till it becomes so common and easy that he would not know you in a week, except by chance. Indeed, it may be seen by reference to the matches in which he played last season, he is always peculiarly at home amongst amateurs;

but the professionals "play him like fun." For pace, Mr. Grace's medium is round-arm; and fast, underhand—the latter very often doing tremendous execution, but I am of opinion that underhand bowling is to be deplored, as it has not the appearance of real cricket. As a fielder, Mr. Grace is remarkable for his high and rapid ball, and for his great quickness and dexterity, returning it like an arrow. Gloucestershire may well be proud of him.

Mortlock, who hails from Surrey, has lately won the discredited appellation of "Stonewall" in consequence of his really magnificent batting. One of the finest trout a man can possibly enjoy is to see Mortlock bat against fine bowling—Tarrant, Jackson, Wootton, Ika Hudson, for instance. His defense is magnificent, if anything favouring too much of the old school, but safe and sure as death itself. Mortlock, too, can hit, but drives straight on very heavily, indeed, and he hits to leg superbly. His "cutting" is not distinguished by

any super-excellence, although he has been known to make some very brilliant off-drives. As a bowler, "Stonewall" does not shine. He has been known, it is true, to chuck lob something like Lockyer's, but he cannot do this now, as he has not the strength to give them or used up. As a fielder, Mortlock is exceedingly smart and agile—a statement which is proved by the fact that he is invariably the Study long-stop. Little wonder then that he excels in the art of the field and oblige cricketer I ever met. He is more distinguished as a bowler than as a batsman. He is, however, very clever as a "bat," and has frequently rendered great service to his country (Kent) in the capture of wickets, and to his enemies most. Lofthouse, very fast, very true, with a fine spin from the off-side of the wicket, he was at one time, and is now, by some expert judges, considered the best—absolutely that is—bowler in the world. I am inclined to think that this is not far from the truth. Last season he was not quite so destructive to wickets, but in '60, '61, and '62 his average was hardly ever surpassed. He is very clever in his style of play, and it is a positive pleasure to be in his company. He is a credit to English cricketers, and we may carry that captions objections to the manner in which he plays, as his balls should have been the means of preventing him from accompanying the English Eleven to Australia.

I must now draw this article to a close. In my next I shall speak of Carpenter, Hayward, R. Daff, George Parr, and Anderson.

CRICKETER.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLUB MATCHES, 1864.

THE new county club, strong with its maiden list of fixtures, which commences here in ten matches, beginning with the most commendable of all viz.—a "canter with the colts." It enters the lists with the usual names of the clubs, the Buckinghamshire, Home-and-Home, though little is known of the latter as a county, but we presume the eleven will be equalized by Thomas and George Hearne (who are "both in") playing for the Bucks. The Marylebone Club and Ground, the Harrowards, and the Old Surrey Club complete the programme. We are glad to be able to state that the club progresses most favourably, and should be much mistaken if the "Middlesex" did not very soon take rank amongst the leading counties of England.

May 5 and 6, at Islington, Eleven Colts of Middlesex v. Eleven Gentlemen of the Club.

May 17 and 18, at Islington, Eleven Gentlemen of the Club v. Sixteen of the Cish.

June 2 and 3, at Newport Pagnell, Middlesex v. Bucks.

June 6, 7, and 8, at Islington, Middlesex v. Sussex.

June 15, at Islington, Middlesex Club v. Cheshire.

July 1, at Islington, Middlesex Club v. Civil Service.

July 21, at Lord's, Middlesex v. Marylebone Club and Ground.

August 1 and 2, at Islington, Middlesex v. Marylebone Club and Ground.

August 4 and 5, at Islington, Middlesex v. Bucks (to be played on the 5th).

August 15, 16, and 17, at Brighton, Middlesex v. Sussex (return).

PROPOSED RULES.

1. The affairs of the club shall be managed by a committee consisting of the president, two vice-presidents, treasurer, secretary, and not more than twenty other members, five of whom shall form a quorum, to be elected annually at a general meeting, which shall be held in December in each year.

2. The committee shall have full power to arrange matches and select the eleven players, and the secretary shall keep minutes of the club meetings and a book to be called "The Match Fund Book," for the purpose of recording any extra contributions that may be received for the benefit of the club.

3. The committee may appoint a sub-committee of members resident in different parts of the county to assist them in carrying out the object of the club, and members on the sub-committee, shall be annually appointed to audit the accounts of the preceding year.

4. Full members shall pay an entrance fee of one guinea, and an annual subscription of one guinea, and shall be entitled to every privilege the club affords.

5. Honorary members shall pay a annual subscription of one guinea, and shall have the same privileges as full members, except that of playing on the ground.

6. That every Tuesday during the season shall be considered a club day for the transaction of business.

7. The name and address of any candidate for admission to the club, together with those of his proposer and seconder, may be posted up in the pavilion on

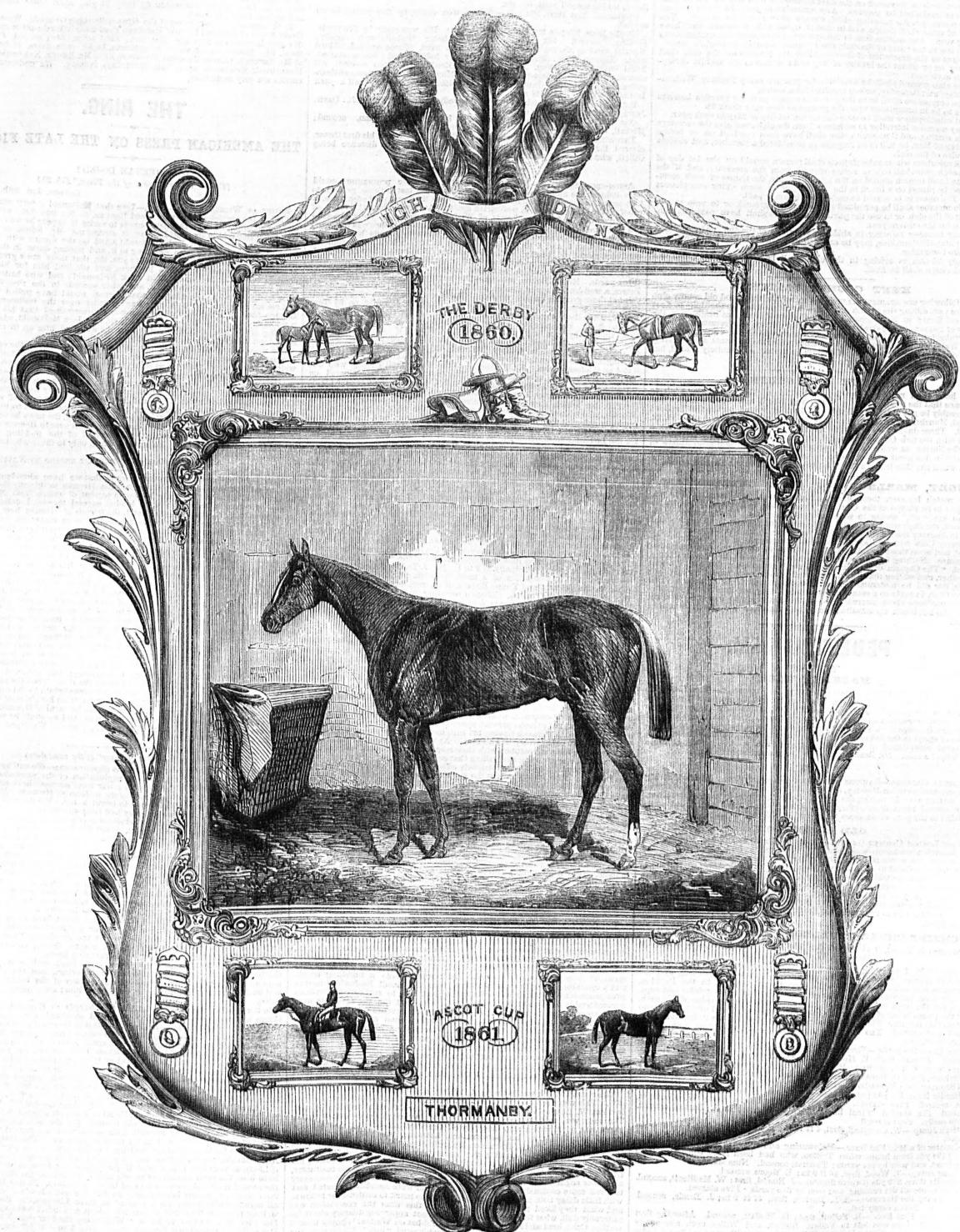


MR. J. CHAMBERS, MANAGER OF THE CAMBRIDGE ATHLETIC SPORTS, AND MR. KOTZES, WINNER OF THE POLE JUMP PRIZE.



JENNER'S GROUNDS, CAMBRIDGE,

AND MR. KOTZES WINNING JUMP AT THE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC SPORTS MEETING.



THORMANBY,
THE PROPERTY OF JAMES MERRY, ESQ.

